(b) whether Government have set up any advisory Committee in this behalf; and

(c) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) to (c) The number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) in operation at the beginning of 2006-07 is reported to be 155, which includes those being implemented in Uttaranchal also. The formulation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes is the responsibility of the concerned administrative Ministry/Department in consultation with the State Governments/UTs and are implemented eventually by the State Governments/UTs/their Agencies. These schemes are designed with a specific objective(s) and are monitored by the administrative Ministries concerned. The pattern of funding of these schemes varies from 100% Central assistance to 50%, the remaining part is to be borne by State Government/Agencies and the beneficiaries. The physical and financial performance of the scheme is taken into account while releasing the Central share and at the time of Quarterly/Half Yearly Performance Review Meetings and at the time of Annual Plan discussions with the States.

In pursuance of the decision taken in a meeting of National Development Council (NDC), a Committee of the NDC was set up on the transfer of Centrally Sponsored Schemes under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Chairman. Planning Commission with members from both the States and Centre. The terms of reference of the Committee are (1) to identify the CSS for retention by the Centre and those for transfer to the States/UTs and to classify all the CSS accordingly; (2) for those CSS which will be identified for transfer to States/UTs, suggest the modalities of transfer including earmarking, the funding pattern, the timeframe for the transfer and the monitoring mechanism; (3) in order to avoid future proliferation of CSS, lay down the criteria for introduction of new CSS. The Committee has not finalized its Report.

Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana

†2191. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether only 10 districts have been coverd under Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana (RSVY) in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether any proposal to cover other backward districts under this scheme is pending; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the details of the action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana (RSVY) has been subsumed in the Backward Regions Grant Fund. Under the new scheme, total 24 districts of Madhya Pradesh, including the 10 districts already covered under RSVY, have been covered.

Restructuring of 11 bridges on NH.-17

2192. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Highway administration has recommended the restructuring of 11 bridges on National Highway 17, which may collapse;

(b) what is the status of the proposal submitted by Executive Engineer, Highways administration Mangalore Zone, seeking Rs. 5.5 crore from the Centre to undertake major repairs;

(c) whether it has come to the notice of the Centre that the problems are compounded by overloaded trucks that pass through regularly; and

(d) whether Government have any proposal to rebuild the Barkur Bridge which connects Brahmavar and Shimoga, if so, by when the work would commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) to (c) There are 12 bridges, 11 in Karnataka and One in Kerala on NH-17, which are in distress condition and require rehabilitation. For one bridge in Kerala, proposal for rehabilitation has already been sanctioned and work is in progress. For remaining 11 bridges in Karnataka, proposals for rehabilitation forwarded by the State PWD were not found to be as per site requirements and the State PWD has been requested to modify the proposals to be in the line with the site requirements. The modified proposals have not been received.

These bridges are very old, constructed about 50 years back, and being very close to the sea, are exposed to saline conditions. The plying